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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER				
SHAW, PELING ANDY				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2144				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/21/2008		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com

oblonpat@oblon.com

jgardner@oblon.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/926,221

Applicant(s)

BJORKNER ET AL.

Examiner

PELING A. SHAW

Art Unit

2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 31-54 and 56-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 31-54 and 56-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/C)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/26/2007 has been entered. Claims 31 and 47 are amended. Claims 31-54 and 56-60 are currently pending.
2. Amendment received on 07/02/2007 was entered into record. Claims 31, 34 and 47 were amended.
3. Applicant's submission filed on 08/08/2006 was entered. Claims 31, 47 and 57 were amended.
4. Amendment received on 11/10/2005 was entered. Claims 31-54 and 56-60 were amended

Priority

5. This application is a 371 of PCT/SE00/00560 03/22/2000 with a priority SWEDEN 9901121-5 03/26/1999. The filing date is 01/15/2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this

subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 31-36 and 38-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by England (US 6144991 A), hereinafter referred as England.

- a. Regarding claim 31, England disclosed a system for communicating over an open computer network comprising: a management unit distributing data from a database to remote users (column 1, line 43-column 2, line 20: hypertext and hyperlinked database; Fig. 5, item 502: piper server; column 28, lines 52-60: piper sever maintains a database of sessions; column 14, line 64-column 15, line 24: Hamelin system consist of piper server, HTTP server, guide system and client); a first terminal associated with a first user (Fig. 13, 1208; column 30, line 35-column 32, line 20: client system used by a client) and configured to access a first information site (Fig. 13, 1312; column 30, lines 39-52: client web browser) and to acquire a client program from the management unit (Fig. 13, 904: client-side component; column 30, lines 46-52: client-side component is an applet to obtain information about its environment, i.e. URL and frame; column 31, lines 9-11: client side-component is contained in the HTML of the Web page); said client program reads an internet address of the first information site in a web crawler of said first terminals (Fig. 13, 904: client-side component; column 30, lines 46-52: client-side component is an applet to obtain information about its environment, i.e. URL and frame ; column 31, lines 9-11: client side-component is contained in the HTML of the Web page); said client program sends a message to said management unit, said message includes the internet address

of the first information site (column 30, lines 61-67: instruct piper server when the client navigates the Web; column 31, lines 40-53: client link navigation notification); said management unit is configured to access the database and determine a collection of web pages containing related information and associated with the internet address of the first information site (Fig. 13, 502; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2: frame contents can be anything available on the Web, such as Web pages; column 26, lines 20-27: piper server load frameset, frame layouts, and/or frame contents such as Web pages ; column 28, lines 52-60: querying all active sessions in a database; column 33, lines 45-64: Web pages for products and applications); said management unit is configured to identify a second user at second terminal accessing at least one of the web pages of the collection (abstract: guide/specialist, remotely loaded and displayable frames, shared whiteboard) of said web pages containing related information associated with the internet address of the first information site (column 30, lines 46-52: client-side component is an applet to obtain information about its environment, i.e. URL and frame) and configured to receive an IP address of the second terminal (column 2, line 65-column 65, line 8: user logon a Web-based browser); said first terminal is further configured to receive an IP address of the second terminal from the management unit and conduct a communication from the first user to the second user based on the received IP address by way of exchange of respective IP address between the first and second terminals (column 15, lines 8-12: communication via the browser-based network among piper server 502, HTTP server 1204, guide system 1206 and client system 1208; column 2, lines 31-38: HTTP built

- on top of TCP/IP; column 20, lines 4-20: Remote Procedure Call interface allows two computer to communicate and send messages, the Remoteaddress is the client IP address), wherein said related information site is part of a same collection as the first information sites and the related information sites include at least one of identical information sites, information sites that are stored in the same place, information sites that have a same author, information sites that have a same specialty, and information sites that have a same publisher (column 5, line 9-54: collaborative tools for chat room application, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and pasteboard, and whiteboard).
- b. Regarding claim 32, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 31, wherein either prepared or not prepared meetings are established on any website where users of the terminals do not need to search for special meeting places, said special places including at least a chat rooms (abstract; column 5, line 9-65; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2; column 14, line 15-28).
- c. Regarding claim 33, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 31, wherein said communication between the first terminal and another terminal is a direct communication (column 5, lines 1-54: real-time interpersonal communication, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and distributed pasteboard, whiteboard).
- d. Regarding claim 34, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 31, wherein said direct communication is one of written and oral dialogue in real time (column 5, lines 1-54: real-time interpersonal communication, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and distributed pasteboard, whiteboard).

- e. Regarding claim 35, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 31, wherein said communication between the first terminal and another terminal includes virtual meetings (column 5, lines 1-54: real-time interpersonal communication, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and distributed pasteboard, whiteboard).
- f. Regarding claim 36, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 35, wherein said communication between the first terminal and another terminal includes making files accessible to all participants in said virtual meeting (column 5, lines 1-54: real-time interpersonal communication, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and distributed pasteboard, whiteboard).
- g. Regarding claim 38, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 31, wherein said open computer network is Internet or other network, and at least one information site includes at least one web page, and wherein said other network includes at least an intranet (abstract; column 5, line 9-65; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2; column 14, line 15-28; column 33, line 45-64).
- h. Regarding claim 39, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 38, wherein said communication between the first terminal and another terminal is created between visitors to a same web page, or to a web page that is included in an identified amount of web pages (abstract; column 5, line 9-65; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2; column 14, line 15-28; column 33, line 45-64).
- i. Regarding claim 40, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 39, wherein said identified amounts of web pages include at least one of, web pages related to persons who have a common interest, web pages stored at a same server, web pages

stored at a same group of servers, web pages dealing with a same specialty, web pages belonging to a same organization, and web pages having a same publisher, author, or constructor (column 14, line 1-63).

- j. Regarding claim 41, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 38, wherein said communication between the first terminal and another terminal is allowed on any web page (abstract; column 5, line 9-65; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2; column 14, line 15-28; column 33, line 45-64).
- k. Regarding claim 42, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 38, wherein current IP-address for each terminal is utilized to establish communication (column 20, line 4-20).
- l. Regarding claim 43, England disclosed the system as claimed in claim 39, wherein said database is configured to store information about users and information regarding appointment of said identified amount of web pages (column 28, line 52-60).

England disclosed all limitations of claims 31-36 and 38-43. Claims 31-36 and 38-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

- 7. Claims 47-48, 50-54 and 56-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by England (US 6144991 A), hereinafter referred as England.

- a. Regarding claim 47, England disclosed a method of creating virtual meetings in an open computer network between a first terminal associated with a first user (Fig. 13, 1208; column 30, line 35-column 32, line 20: client system used by a client) and another terminal accessing a related information site (abstract: guide/specialist,

remotely loaded and displayable frames, shared whiteboard), the method comprising: accessing a first information site from a first terminal (Fig. 13, 1312; column 30, lines 39-52: client web browser) and acquiring a client program from a management unit (Fig. 13, 904: client-side component; column 30, lines 46-52: client-side component is an applet to obtain information about its environment, i.e. URL and frame; column 31, lines 9-11: client side-component is contained in the HTML of the Web page), said client program reads an internet address of the first information site in a web crawler (Fig. 13, 904: client-side component; column 30, lines 46-52: client-side component is an applet to obtain information about its environment, i.e. URL and frame ; column 31, lines 9-11: client side-component is contained in the HTML of the Web page), sending a message to said management unit, said message including the internet address of the first information site (column 30, lines 61-67: instruct piper server when the client navigates the Web; column 31, lines 40-53: client link navigation notification), accessing a database and determining a collection of web pages containing related information associated with the internet address of the first information site (Fig. 13, 502; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2: frame contents can be anything available on the Web, such as Web pages; column 26, lines 20-27: piper server load frameset, frame layouts, and/or frame contents such as Web pages ; column 28, lines 52-60: querying all active sessions in a database; column 33, lines 45-64: Web pages for products and applications), receiving an IP address of a second user from the management unit at a second terminal accessing at least one of the web pages of the collection, establishing communications from the first user to the second

user based on the received IP address by way of exchange of respective IP address between the first and second terminals (column 15, lines 8-12: communication via the browser-based network among piper server 502, HTTP server 1204, guide system 1206 and client system 1208; column 2, lines 31-38: HTTP built on top of TCP/IP; column 20, lines 4-20: Remote Procedure Call interface allows two computer to communicate and send messages, the Remoteaddress is the client IP address); wherein the related information sites include at least one of identical information sites, information sties that are stored in the same place, information sites that have a same author, information sites that have a same specialty, and information sites that have a same publisher (column 5, line 9-54: collaborative tools for chat room application, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and pasteboard, and whiteboard).

- b. Regarding claim 48, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 47, wherein said virtual meetings are established independent of a location of participants of the virtual meeting or address in the network (abstract; column 5, line 9-65; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2; column 14, line 15-28).
- c. Regarding claim 50, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 47, wherein participants of said virtual meeting are given information about an address of other participants (column 20, line 4-20).
- d. Regarding claim 51, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 47, wherein participants of said virtual meeting can carry on one of a written and oral conversation (column 5, lines 1-54: real-time interpersonal communication, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and distributed pasteboard, whiteboard).

- e. Regarding claim 52, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 47, wherein files can be opened for participants of said virtual meeting (column 5, lines 1-54: real-time interpersonal communication, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and distributed pasteboard, whiteboard).
- f. Regarding claim 53, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 47, wherein participants of said virtual meeting can make files and documents accessible to other participants at said virtual meeting (column 5, lines 1-54: real-time interpersonal communication, videoconferencing, shared-pointer and distributed pasteboard, whiteboard).
- g. Regarding claim 54, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 47, wherein said open computer network is Internet or other network (column 18, line 36-43; column 33, line 45-64).
- h. Regarding claim 56, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 54, wherein said virtual meetings: are prepared or not prepared; and are established between visitors to web pages that are located within the same world, where a world is an amount of web pages that persons who have interests in common can be expected to visit (abstract; column 5, line 9-65; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2; column 14, line 15-28).
- i. Regarding claim 57, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 56, wherein modifications of web pages within the collection of web pages, or of web servers from where said web pages are loaded to establish virtual meetings, are not needed

(abstract; column 5, line 9-65; column 10, line 65-column 11, line 2; column 14, line 15-28).

- j. Regarding claim 58, England disclosed the method as claimed in claim 56, wherein web pages within a same world are either located to a same server, to a same node, deal with a same specialty, have a same author, have a same publisher, or belong to a same organization (column 14, line 1-63).
- k. Regarding claim 59, England disclosed the method as claimed in patent claim 54, wherein a support staff, or selling staff, of a company can see who is visiting the web site of the company and can communicate directly with these visitors (column 14, line 1-63).
- l. Regarding claim 60, England disclosed the method as claimed in patent claim 54, wherein a current IP-address of each participant of the virtual meeting is utilized to establish communication between participants of the meeting (column 20, line 4-20).

England disclosed all limitations of claims 47-48, 50-54 and 56-60. Claims 47-48, 50-54 and 56-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 37, 44 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over England (US 6144991 A), hereinafter referred as England as applied to claims 31 and 38-39 above, and further in view of Tang et al. (US 5793365 A), hereinafter referred as Tang.

- a. England shows claims 31 and 38-39 as above. England does not show (claim 37) wherein said communication between the first terminal and another terminal includes distribution of address information and a picture of users of terminals.
- b. Tang shows (claim 37) wherein said communication between the first terminal and another terminal includes distribution of address information and a picture of users of terminals (column 5, line 13-24; column 10, line 51-column 11, line 3) in an analogous art for the purpose of managing interactions between users in a browser-based telecommunications network.
- c. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify England's functions of managing interactions between users in a browser-based telecommunications network with Tang's functions of user's personal information.
- d. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to identify a user's personal information Tan's teaching in an interactive among users application per England and Tan's teaching.
- e. Regarding claim 44, Tang shows wherein necessary resources for the first terminal, in addition to standard applications to create access to information, are loaded by the open computer network and installed at the first terminal (column 2, line 61-column 3, line 29; column 8, line 57-column 9, line 62).

- f. Regarding claim 46, Tang shows wherein said virtual meetings include at least one of: chatting (column 8, line 57-column 9, line 62), communication of files (column 8, line 57-column 9, line 62), management of files in common (column 8, line 57-column 9, line 62), access rights to communicated files and files in common (column 8, line 57-column 9, line 62), access to address information of the participants in the meeting (column 10, line 51-column 11, line 3), and showing of pictures of participants of the meeting (column 5, line 20-24).

Together England and Tang disclosed all limitations of claims 37, 44 and 46. Claims 37, 44 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

- 9. Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over England (US 6144991 A), hereinafter referred as England as applied to claim 31 above, and further in view of Kakuta et al. (US 6714965 B2), hereinafter referred as Kakuta.

- a. England shows claim 31 as above. England does not show (claim 45) wherein users can register the information comprising: a picture of the user; identity information including the user name or organizational affiliation; address information, including an address to establish communication; and biographical data.
- b. Kakuta shows (claim 45) wherein users can register the information comprising: a picture of the user (column 8, line 22-29); identity information including the user name or organizational affiliation (column 8, line 22-29); address information, including an address to establish communication (column 8, line 22-29); and biographical data (column 8, line 22-29; column 13, line 39-42) in an analogous art

- for the purpose of group contacting system, and recording medium for storing computer instructions for executing operations of the contact system.
- c. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify England's functions of managing interactions between users in a browser-based telecommunications network with Kakuta's functions of group contacting system.
- d. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to use a contacting system in establishing group communication per Kakuta's teaching in an interactive among users application per England and Kakuta's teaching.

Together England and Kakuta disclosed all limitations of claim 45. Claim 45 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

10. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over England (US 6144991 A), hereinafter referred as England as applied to claim 47 above, and further in view of Tang et al. (US 5793365 A), hereinafter referred as Tang.

- a. England shows claim 47 as above. England does not show (claim 49) wherein participants of said virtual meeting are given information about identities of other participants, including at least one of a name, or an organizational affiliation and stored picture or direct transmission of moving picture.
- b. Tang shows (claim 49) wherein participants of said virtual meeting are given information about identities of other participants, including at least one of a name, or an organizational affiliation and stored picture or direct transmission of moving

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picture (column 5, line 20-24; column 10, line 51-column 11, line 3) is an analogous art for the purpose of providing a computer user interface enabling access to distributed workgroup members.

- c. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify England's functions of managing interactions between users in a browser-based telecommunications network with Tang's functions of user's personal information.
- d. The modification would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to identify a user's personal information in an interactive discussion window application per Tan's teaching.

Together England and Tang disclosed all limitations of claim 49. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed on 12/26/2007 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

- a. Applicant has amended independent claim 31 and 47 with the limitations of "a management unit distributing data from a database to remote users", "of said web pages containing related information associated with the internet address of the first information site and configured to receive an IP address of the second terminal" and "by way of exchange of respective IP address between the first and second terminals". Examiner has reviewed the claim language changes in light of applicant's original specification and claim language. Examiner has further reviewed the claim rejections and applied prior art, particularly England, as per office action dated 09/24/2007. Examiner has searched based upon the amended claim language and found that England seems to have all amended claim language changes. Claim rejections are updated above to reflect the amended claim language changes within the context of whole claim and additional references cited from England.
- b. Applicant has argued the applied prior art does not have the amended claim language changes. As presented in item a in section 6 and item a in section 7, England has disclosed the similar system arrangement, i.e. Fig. 12, Piper server, Guide system, HTTP service and client system, as applicant's system per Figure 1, i.e. Managing System, data, Web Server and Client program/Web Crawler. Here the Piper server and Guide system cover the Managing system and data. Applicant's data in Figure seems to relate used by Managing system as England has mentioned the database as

per Piper server session management (column 28, lines 52-60) and as per Web page database (column 1, line 43-column 2, line 20: hypertext and hyperlinked database). The limitation of “management unit distributing data from a database to remote users” as per applicant’s Figure 1 seems to be read upon by England in Fig. 12. On the limitation of “of said web pages containing related information associated with the internet address of the first information site and configured to receive an IP address of the second terminal”, England has shown (column 4, lines 13-250 that applet is download from a Web server; Fig. 13, 904: client-side component; (column 30, lines 46-52) client-side component is an applet to obtain information about its environment, i.e. URL and frame; (column 2, line 65-column 65, line 8) user logons a Web-based browser; (column 20, lines 4-20) Remote Procedure Call interface allows two computer to communicate and send messages and the Remoteaddress is the client IP address. On the limitation of “by way of exchange of respective IP address between the first and second terminals”, England has shown (column 15, lines 8-12) communication via the browser-based network among piper server 502, HTTP server 1204, guide system 1206 and client system 1208; column 2, lines 31-38: HTTP built on top of TCP/IP; and (column 20, lines 4-20) Remote Procedure Call interface allows two computer to communicate and send messages, the Remoteaddress is the client IP address. These seem to follow industrial HTTP/TCP/IP standard for communicating between a client and server in web page based application on top of TCP/IP for reliable packet based message exchange.

- c. It is the Examiner's position that Applicant has not submitted claims drawn to limitations, which define the operation and apparatus of Applicant's disclosed invention in manner, which distinguishes over the prior art. As it is Applicant's right to claim as broadly as possible their invention, it is also the Examiner's right to interpret the claim language as broadly as possible. It is the Examiner's position that the detailed functionality that allows for Applicant's invention to overcome the prior art used in the rejection, fails to differentiate in detail how these features are unique (see item a in section 6 and item a in section 7). As England has shown a system and method of web based user interaction management system as applied to product information and application, i.e. a guide/specialist and client interact via web pages. It is clear that Applicant must be able to submit claim language to distinguish over the prior arts used in the above rejection sections that discloses distinctive features of Applicant's claimed invention. It is suggested that Applicant compare the original specification and claim language with the cited prior art used in the rejection section above or the Remarks section below to draw an amended claim set to further the prosecution.
- d. Failure for Applicant to narrow the definition/scope of the claims and supply arguments commensurate in scope with the claims implies the Applicant's intent to broaden claimed invention. Examiner interprets the claim language in a scope parallel to the Applicant in the response. Examiner reiterates the need for the Applicant to more clearly and distinctly define the claimed invention.

Remarks

12. The following pertaining arts are discovered and not used in this office action. Office reserves the right to use these arts in later actions.

- a. Busey et al. (US 5764916 A) Method and apparatus for real time communication over a computer network
- b. Colyer et al. (US 6151621 A) Personal conferencing system
- c. Liang et al. (US 6766355 B2) Method and apparatus for implementing multi-user grouping nodes in a multimedia player
- d. SHEM–TOV et al. (WO 99/03034) SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING A CHAT ROOM OVER A COMPUTER NETWORK
- e. Barraclough et al. (US 6301607 B1) Arrangement and method for displaying and sharing images
- f. Wesinger et al. (US 5778367 A) Automated on-line information service and directory, particularly for the world wide web
- g. Tang et al. (US 6349327 B1) System and method enabling awareness of others working on similar tasks in a computer work environment

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Refer to the enclosed PTO-892 for details.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peling A. Shaw whose telephone number is (571) 272-7968. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William C. Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Peling A Shaw/
Examiner, Art Unit 2144